

CALFED Policy Group
Friday, November 8, 1996

Summary of Meeting and Actions

Phase II Process

- Stakeholders and agency staff have suggested that additional time is necessary to analyze and understand the program components during Step 1 and Step 2. A proposed change in the schedule has been recommended. The final EIR schedule will remain the same, however, time allocated for review of the administrative draft and draft EIR/EIS will be shortened. The intent is to get buy-in early in the process rather than risk objections after substantial time and effort have been put into preparing the draft EIR/EIS.
- Concerns focussed on slipping the schedule so early in the process of Phase II. There was concern that this would automatically delay the final product and that we need to keep the pressure on in order to meet the final deadline.
- A group of State and Federal officials (Management Team level) will get together to discuss the proposed schedule changes and potential implications within the next week.

Five-year Implementation Plan

- Federal and State agencies will provide comments to Judy Kelly by November 15 on the five-year implementation plan.
- **State/Fed Cost Share Agreement**
By Friday, November 15, representatives from State and federal agencies will be designated to draft up and negotiate a cost-sharing agreement and recommendations for stakeholder involvement.
- **Expanded CALFED Membership**
There is a need to examine the issue of expanding the CALFED membership to include other agencies. Representatives from the Corp of Engineers and USDA were present at the meeting and participated in a discussion of the advantages of being involved in the Program. The Corp of Engineers and USDA will be provided copies of existing MOU's to review. Mary Scoonover and Tom Hagler will examine the framework agreement to determine if it should be redrafted or amended to accommodate expanded membership and other changes in the program. Policy Group members cautioned that too much detail in a document like the Framework Agreement may be too constraining. This issue will be discussed again at the December 18 Management Team meeting to determine the appropriate course of action.

- **Federal Budget**
Federal agencies will continue to try to obtain appropriations through various channels for CALFED funding. CALFED agencies are asked to encourage stakeholders to "touch base" with Washington level CALFED members (Bob Perciaseppe and David Cottingham) when making trips to DC.

CALFED Implementation Issues

- **Dredge Reuse Issue**
Curt Schmutte will develop a policy memorandum describing the issues relative to beneficial reuse of dredge material and present it to the Management Team at its December 18 meeting.
- **Fish Screens**
Ron Bachman, CVPIA, will work with other Federal and State agencies and develop an issue paper outlining acceptable criteria for screening and necessary assurances.

Next Meeting

The next CALFED Policy Group meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, February 19, 1997.